

DRIVER LICENSE SUSPENSION, REVOCATION AND INVALIDATION

A licensed driver can lose his or her driving privileges for violating traffic regulations and other laws of this state. This article summarizes the ways in which driving privileges can be lost. **DRIVING A MOTOR VEHICLE IN THE STATE OF INDIANA IS A PRIVILEGE AND NOT A RIGHT!**

CHAPTER A

MANDATORY COURT-ORDERED SUSPENSIONS: Indiana law gives courts the authority to order the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to suspend a person's driver license when he or she is found to have committed certain traffic violations. In most of these instances a minimum suspension period is required. A driver license gives you the privilege to operate a vehicle in a legal manner; it can be taken away if you do not abide by Indiana traffic laws.

1. **License Suspension for Operating a Vehicle While Intoxicated:** A person who operates a vehicle in this state agrees to submit to a chemical test (commonly known as a Breathalyzer test) to determine the amount of alcohol in the person's bloodstream. Driving while intoxicated or with a blood-alcohol content ("BAC") in excess of the legal limit is a criminal offense and will have an immediate and significant effect on your privilege to operate a motor vehicle. A sobering fact about alcohol: It is not what you drink. It's how much. A 12-ounce can of beer, a 5-ounce glass of wine and a cocktail with 1.5 ounces of 80 proof distilled spirits all contain the same amount of alcohol.
 - a. **Refusal to Submit to Breath Test:** A person who refuses to submit to a breath test conducted by a law enforcement officer will have his or her license immediately confiscated and will face a license suspension of up to one (1) year.
 - b. **Failure of Breath Test:** If a person submits to the breath test, that person's driving privileges may be suspended for a period of up to 180 days upon receipt by the BMV of an affidavit from the law enforcement officer submitted to the court containing the results of the failed test.